

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 32, 33 and 38 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein, and amend claims 34-37 and 39-40 as follows.

1-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently amended) An isolated antibody that selectively binds albumin from a felid or a canid, wherein said antibody inhibits the binding of said albumin by the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line having ATCC Accession No. PTA-9498 (MAb H425).

35. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody of claim 34, wherein said antibody binds the same epitope recognized by the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line having ATCC Accession No. PTA-9498 (MAb H425).

36. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody of claim 34, wherein said antibody is the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line having ATCC Accession No. PTA-9498 (MAb H425).

37. (Currently amended) A kit comprising:

(a) an isolated antibody that selectively binds albumin from a felid or canid, wherein said antibody inhibits the binding of said albumin by the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line having ATCC Accession No. PTA-9498 (MAb H425); and

(b) a means for detecting the amount of albumin in a sample collected from a felid or canid, wherein said means detects albumin in a range from about 10 µg/ml to about 50 µg/ml.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 37, wherein said antibody binds the same epitope as the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line having ATCC Accession No. PTA-9498 (MAb H425).

40. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 37, wherein said antibody is the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line having ATCC Accession No. PTA-9498 (MAb H425).